

CHECKUP

Vol. 1 No. 10 July 8, 1988

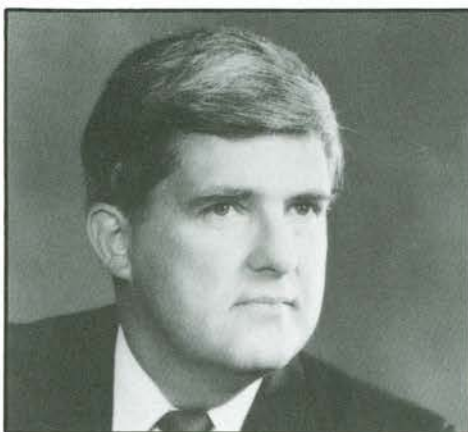
New Chairman of Medicine Arrives

On July 1, John P. Fitzgibbons, M.D., joined us as chairman of the department of Medicine at TAH—LVHC. He follows Dean F. Dimick, M.D., who was chairman of the department for 21 years. Fitzgibbons has also been appointed vice chairman of the department of Medicine at Hahnemann University Medical School, Philadelphia. TAH—LVHC is a clinical campus affiliate that provides patient care experience to third- and fourth-year medical students from Hahnemann.

At TAH—LVHC, Fitzgibbons is responsible for the administration of the department of Medicine, including its six divisions: dermatology, family practice, internal medicine, neurology, psychiatry and physical medicine. The internal medicine division includes the sections of allergy, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, general internal medicine, hematology and medical oncology, infectious diseases, pulmonary, renal and rheumatology.

Fitzgibbons is board-certified in internal medicine and in the subspecialty of nephrology (the study of kidneys). Prior to his new appointment at TAH—LVHC, he was chief of renal services at Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, Mass. and director of the hemodialysis unit, Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield, Mass.

Fitzgibbons completed clinical and research fellowships in nephrology at



John P. Fitzgibbons, M.D.

Tufts-New England Medical Center, Boston. He was a resident at both Bos-

ton City Hospital, Boston and University of California Medical Center, San Francisco.

Dimick has been named vice president of academic affairs, TAH—LVHC, and project director for development of the Metabolic/Renal Regional Resource Center. During his tenure as chairman, Dimick was responsible for developing and managing the medical residency program at both hospital sites. He also served as chair of the combined education committee and developed and implemented continuing medical education programs.

Fitzgibbons will reside in Allentown with his wife, Beverly, and their four children.

Luxury Trip Offers Jackpot Of Excitement

Plan to join TAH's Recreation Committee on Aug. 20 for an exciting, luxurious trip to Atlantic City. You will ride in VIP comfort in a modern state-of-the-art motorcoach equipped with refrigerator, card tables, AM-FM stereo cassette radio with individual seat speaker controls and much more.

Bring your own munchies and start the party the minute you board the bus. The bus departs from TAH at 8:30 a.m. and will return by 8:30 p.m. At Trump Plaza, you will receive \$15 in coins and a \$5 food-beverage voucher. Total price of the trip is only \$23.

Call Janice Kiefer at ext. 2289 to reserve your seat. Money must be received to confirm reservations.

Call today since these tickets will go fast.



The Allentown
Hospital—
Lehigh Valley
Hospital Center

A HealthEast Hospital

From The President's Desk

Dear TAH—LVHC employees,

I am happy to announce that shuttle service for transporting employees between The Allentown Hospital and Lehigh Valley Hospital Center sites will begin on Monday, July 18. Two 14-passenger, air-conditioned vans will run during the hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, leaving the TAH and LVHC sites on the half hour.

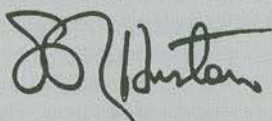
You can have a sneak preview of the vans on Friday, July 15, from noon to 1 p.m., when they will be parked outside the main lobby at each site.

The shuttle service has been named "The Tunnel" after the system of underground passages frequently used to interconnect the various buildings on the campus of large hospitals, making movement easier throughout the institution. As the departments of TAH—LVHC consolidate, it will be essential that we begin to function as a large single hospital located at two sites.

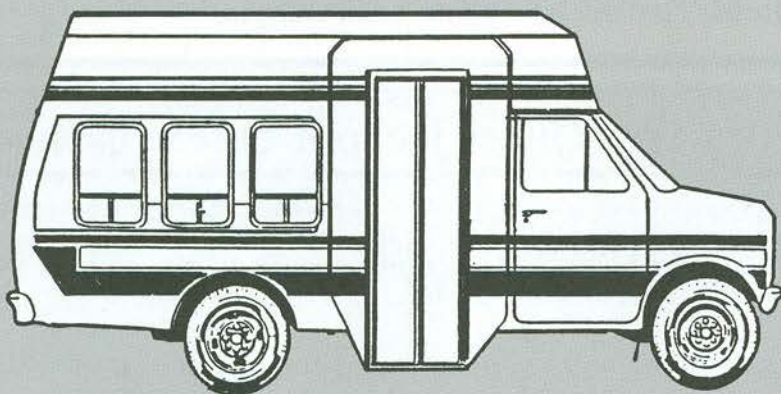
"The Tunnel" is the first visible link between the merged hospital sites. I encourage all employees who must travel between TAH and LVHC to ride in comfort in the vans.

We are currently examining the possibility of starting a system for the transport of patients between the sites. I will keep you informed on the progress of this and other important topics through *CheckUp*.

Sincerely,



Samuel R. Huston
President and CEO
TAH—LVHC



Please Accept My Thanks....

I would like to thank all of you at TAH site who have been patient and understanding during the recent untimely heatwave. Although the problems with the air conditioning are not over, we are well on our way to correcting them.

An employee letter was distributed which explained the details of the situation. However, I want to take this opportunity to let you know that your cooperation and continuation of delivery of high-quality care during this time is appreciated.

—Samuel R. Huston



Bowlers Have Fun To Spare

For the first time in seven years, there are new male and female high average title holders in TAH Bowling League. Linda Trella (Psychiatry) and Brian Puskar dominated the lanes during the recent season.

In addition to these two winners, the following awards were presented at the bowling banquet held recently at the Schnecksville Fire Company:

First Place Team: Judy Braun, captain (School of Nursing); Kerri Puskar (Communications); Brian Puskar; Pat Rehm (Laboratory); and Roman Braun III.

Second Place Team: Tom Seabourne, captain (Human Resources, HealthEast); Ann Seabourne; Bernie Potetz (Admissions); Joanne Troxell (Human Resources, HealthEast); and Loretta Wagner.

High Triple: Female - Judy Braun; Male - Jim Wagner

High Single: Female - Diane Popovich (Emergency Center); Male - Steve Wagner

Most Improved: Female - Marla Gieringer (Home Care); Male - Roman Braun III

New Bowlers Needed

The league will resume bowling at the Mountainville Bowling Lanes, Thursday evenings, from 6:25 to 9 p.m. beginning Sept. 8.

Please call ext. 7936 to sign up. Plan to provide your last competing season's average. *All TAH—LVHC and HealthEast employees are eligible to participate.*

Last season, the league had a low female average of 111 and low male average of 99. So, as you can see, you do not have to be a great bowler to join the league and have fun.

Making The Rounds

Carol Acernese, R.N., and **Theresa Mylet**, R.N., staff nurses on ACCU (TAH), recently graduated from Cedar Crest College with bachelor of science degrees in nursing.

Rose Haas, R.N., director of Employee Health Services, will be a member of the faculty of the Employee Health-Infection Control Conference to be held in Boston, later this month. She has been a guest faculty member for this conference for the past four years and served as conference chairman in 1986 and 1987.

Judith A. Braun, R.N., coordinator, Nursing of Children, School of Nursing, wrote the text for *Sun Sense for Kids and Parents*, a children's pamphlet on skin cancer.

The pamphlet will be used in the

pediatrics clinic at TAH site and for public education programs offered by the Comprehensive Community Cancer Center. Copies may be obtained by calling ext. 2582.

Sandra Smith, R.N., oncology nurse administrator of the Comprehensive Community Cancer Center, was selected for inclusion into the 1988-89 edition of *Who's Who in American Nursing*. She also passed the oncology nursing certification exam and is now entitled to use the OCN designation behind her name.

Doris Fisher, R.N., Dialysis Center (TAH), has earned her master's degree in Human Resource Administration from the University of Scranton.

Nancy Root, R.N., Nursing Administration (TAH), has graduated cum

laude from Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales with a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

Mary Ann Hilton, R.N., Allentown Breast Diagnostic Center, was the featured speaker at the spring program held by the Patient Education and Community Health Organization of South Central Pennsylvania. Her topic, "Through the Looking Glass: Women's Health Issues in Today's Society," stressed the importance of early detection of breast cancer through physician exam, self-breast exam, mammography and breast ultrasound.

Brenda Salatino, R.N., Nursing Education (TAH), has been elected director of workshops for the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

Take Me Out To The Ballgame



Will Mest of LVHC #1 shows 'true grit' as he swings his mighty bat.



Lauren Schneider (left) of LVHC #1 and Phyllis Schneck of TAH #2 discuss the lineup prior to recent contest between the two softball teams.

All In A Day's Work

By Rob Stevens
Director, Communications
(LVHC)

Traditionally, Father's Day imparts near celebrity status to dads throughout the nation. Since this was only my second Father's Day since the birth of our son, Daniel, I looked forward to basking in the glow of the holiday, and quite frankly, letting my wife and son spoil me to their hearts' content.

That was before a celebrity of another sort entered the picture. At 1 p.m. on the afternoon of Sunday, June 19, I received a call from the emergency room at LVHC.

"Do you know who Bobby Allison is?" the voice on the line asked.

"He's a race car driver, isn't he?" I responded.

Yes, I was told, and he was being transported by MedEvac to the Hospital Center following a serious racing accident at Pocono International Speedway. Bobby was in bad shape.

What followed was a frantic paced series of meetings with Allison's publicity man and his physician to learn details of his condition and injuries, and the necessity of dealing with an endless stream of phone calls from fans, friends, family and the media.

Not surprisingly, most of the callers were from places like Memphis, Tenn., Birmingham, Ala. and Miami. Allison makes Hueytown, Ala. his home and one caller said he is a near legend down South.



Some Cans Not Recyclable

Formula feeding cans, food vending machine cans and coffee cans are not aluminum and are not recyclable. Please refrain from depositing these cans in the aluminum can recycling containers located throughout the LVHC site.

Do not throw away mercury batteries. Please forward the batteries to Engineering, LVHC site.

Between mouthfuls of dinner that evening, I returned the 50 calls that had come into the hospital. Some of the fans were crying, some sounded like they were in shock. The overall tone was of great concern for a man many people considered a hero and friend.

At 7:30 p.m., it became clear to me that I could do more for the situation by being at the hospital to answer the calls coming in. So, for 2 1/2 hours I staffed a phone in the Admitting office telling long-distance voices that Bobby was in critical condition, along with, "I'm sorry, that is all the information I'm permitted to release at this time," when they pressed for details.

Thankfully, by 10 p.m., the calls had decreased noticeably. The media had spread the story far and wide, and racing fans across the United States knew of the accident.

Walking to my car, I felt the stillness of the night air. However quiet outside, I knew that inside the hospital, skilled doctors and nurses were busy keeping this racing hero alive.

When I returned home, my wife was awake, waiting.

"How's he doing?" she asked.

"Critical, but stable," I responded, almost automatically, adding "I think this is going to be a long week."

I was right. By week's end rumors of calls and visits from celebrities like Linda Evans of "Dynasty" and actor Paul Newman were heard in nearly every barbershop and beauty salon in the area. CBS, NBC and ABC big-name correspondents all called. This was clearly a "big news story." But then, it is all in a day's work.

EDITOR'S NOTE: At press time, Allison's condition was guarded, he was responding consistently and his vital signs were stable.



Barbara Toczec, Radiology (LVHC) explains an x-ray to a visitor attending "The Inside Tract: Health Information for Your Digestive System," a health fair held recently at the LVHC site.

'13' Lucky Number For These Students

Recently, 50 college undergraduate, graduate and medical students began a 12-week practical learning experience through the Work Study Program, partially funded by the Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust. Participants in the program experience the organization and operation of a health care institution, as well as test and evaluate their own educational and career goals.

This year marks the 13th anniversary of the Work Study Program. Health-related positions have been filled at HealthEast, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital, Gnaden Huetten Memorial Hospital and TAH—LVHC. According to Susan Knapp, director of Educational Development and coordinator of the Work Study Program, "The program has grown each year beginning with 10 positions in 1976 to the 50 positions this year."

She explained the program is mutually beneficial to the HealthEast system and the students. The program serves as a means of recruitment of employees and potential medical residents. "A survey taken two years ago indicated 22 percent of past Work Study students were working within the HealthEast system and an additional 60 percent planned to return to the Lehigh Valley following completion of their education," she added.

In addition to hands-on experience in various hospital projects, the program also provides students with experience in health care careers related to their fields of study.

Applications for the 1988 Work Study program were received from over 500 students attending 130 colleges and universities.

The following are mini-profiles of three typical Work Study participants:

Michelle Griffin, a Broadcast/Journalism major at Syracuse University, is doing an internship in the Communications Department at the Hospital Center site.

She feels her experience at the LVHC site will be a boost to her career plans. "In the Communications Department, I am writing, interviewing, copyediting and dealing with people. Whether I choose jour-



Michelle Griffin

nalism or public relations, I am building a background for a positive future," she observed.

Terry Messer, a third-year student at Franklin and Marshall College, is assigned to Human Resources at HealthEast. He hopes to earn his bachelor of science degree in Psychology with a career in medicine as his long-range goal.

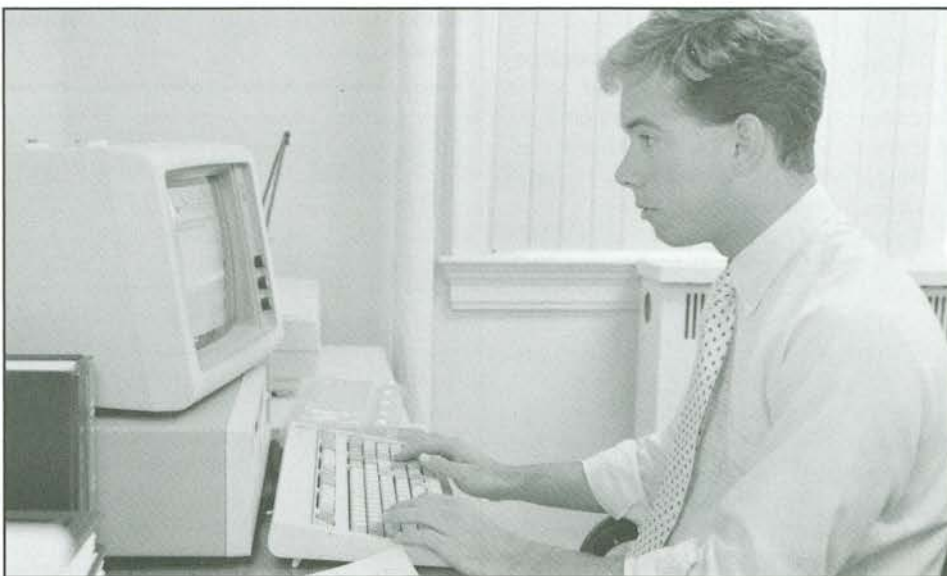
"I am very fortunate to be working in the Human Resources Department because I am learning about health care from a totally new perspective—flexible benefits, pension mergers, salary increases, job evaluations and health care laws. These are things I



Michelle Ratzell

knew very little about, but they are important to understand, especially since the health care field is experiencing so many changes," he explained.

Michelle Ratzell, a student at Rutgers University College of Pharmacy, is working in TAH Pharmacy. She hopes to either enroll in medical school or earn additional degrees in clinical work. She feels her experience this summer will be very helpful to her in the future. "A major skill I hope to attain is how to communicate and work with health care professionals and the companies that deal with them," she said.



Terry Messer



Congratulations!

Leanna Buddock, R.N., 5B (LVHC), became the bride of Jered Golden on May 21. The wedding took place at St. Josaphats Church in Bethlehem.

Betty Fister, Business Office (TAH), was the winner of the perfect attendance drawing for May. She received \$100 in U.S. Savings Bonds. She has been employed at TAH since Oct. 1963.

Diane M. Carpenter, R.N., Clinical Programs (LVHC), and her husband, Peter, recently became parents of a daughter. Kaitlyn was born on May 29 and weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces. She was 20-inches long.

Ellen Weiss, R.N., Newborn Nursery (TAH), married Richard Neiman on May 14.

Debra McGeehin, R.N., Clinical Programs (LVHC), and her husband, Jeff, became parents of a daughter on May 12. Alyson Leigh weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce, and was 21-inches long.

Sheri Gehman, Computer Services (TAH), married Leo Devito on June 11 in SS. Simon and Jude Church, Bethlehem.

Shari Fitzgerald, Respiratory Care (LVHC), and her husband, Scott, became parents of a baby girl on June 4. Erin weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces.

Marie Murphy, WomanCare (TAH), married Rob Shaw on June 10.

Tami Peters, Engineering (LVHC), and her husband, Donald, recently marked the arrival of a daughter. Ashley Elizabeth was born on June 7, weighed 8 pounds, 3/4 ounces and was 20 1/2-inches long.

Melody Schuon, Special Care Unit (LVHC), recently announced her engagement to Blaine Herb.

Items for "Congratulations" may be submitted, in writing, to the Communications office at your work site.

After The Merger...

Employee Health departments at TAH and LVHC sites are in the process of consolidating, which will result in uniform monitoring of hospital employees' health, according to John Salvanti, Ph.D., of the Office of Integration. Current projects of Employee Health include finalizing plans for providing physicals and health risk assessments to the management of TAH site, which will begin this fall. Also, plans are being developed to provide medical assessments for TAH staff on a three-year rotational system. The starting date for this program has not been established.

The consolidated department will also assist Legal Services in the man-

agement of Workman's Compensation claims for TAH—LVHC employees.

Heading up Employee Health will be Rose Haas, R.N., whose office will be located at the LVHC site. Janice Kiefer, R.N., assumes the role of manager at TAH site.

Employee Health physicians treating TAH—LVHC employees are Jeff Burtaine, M.D., and Judith McDonald, M.D. Cheryl Hartman, R.N., assists part time at the LVHC site.

The Employee Health office at each site will continue to investigate employee incidents and accidents; treat employee illness and injuries; provide immunizations, blood work and confidential HIV testing; as well as provide physician and Employee Assistance Program referrals.

Seat Belt Prizes Awarded

Prize winners from the last audit of the Seat Belt Campaign, conducted recently by TAH Wellness Committee, have been announced.

Mary Ellen Bennicoff (Pediatrics) won the first prize trip to Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Second and third prizes, trips to Atlantic City, were awarded to Debbie Feden (4S) and Beverly Humphrey (Pediatrics).

T-shirt winners were Marcie Barnett (Pediatrics), Michele Cherry (Social Services), Scott Dornblaser (Photography), Cathy Hall (NICU), Vicki LaPorte (Admissions), Donna Nonnemacher (4T), JoEllen Stoll

(Operating Room), Randy Stubits (Materials Management), Carol Tenuto (Labor and Delivery) and Mike Weaver (Transport).

Seat belt audits were conducted on each shift. Results indicated an increase in awareness for the need to wear seat belts, often called "the hug of life."

It was determined that 79 percent of audited employees were wearing seat belts, an improvement over the 71 percent measured during a similar audit last fall and the 46 percent indicated during a previous audit.

Briefly Speaking

Enlargement Monthly Photo Special

The Quality Color Photo Special for July at the Hospital Center is a 5X7-inch color enlargement for 79 cents (regular price \$1.25).

'Old Timers' Plan Softball Contest

The management teams of TAH—LVHC and HealthEast will join forces to battle the Butz, Hudders, Tallman, Stevens and Johnson lawyers in a softball game on Monday, July 11 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Hospital Center's field.

Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the newest version of "The Old Timers" game.

BENEFIT SPOTLIGHT

Health Fund-TAH Site

The Health Fund Program, which has existed at The Allentown Hospital site, is being phased out between June 30 and Dec. 31. In its place, employees will enjoy the benefits of a dental insurance plan, fully paid for by the hospital.

When an employee's balance in the Health Fund reaches zero, a letter with a summary of the dental plan and a dental enrollment card will be sent.

If you have any questions about the Health Fund or the dental plan, contact Ann Kelby, benefits counselor (TAH), at ext. 2279.

LVHC Auxiliary Presents Check

The Lehigh Valley Hospital Center Auxiliary recently presented a check for \$190,000 to the Hospital Center. The money will be used towards the Auxiliary's pledge of \$375,000 to purchase 14 bedside monitors and central station for the Special Care unit.

Auxiliary gifts to the LVHC site during the past 16 years have totaled \$1,425,000.

The latest check was presented during the annual spring luncheon held recently at Lehigh Country Club. Flo Buchmueller, May Daze chairman, reported a profit of \$38,755 from the annual fund raiser.

CheckUp Features Ads

CheckUp has been very successful in providing an added service to TAH-LVHC and HealthEast through "The Marketplace" insert.

Anyone interested in advertising in this classified ad section must submit the ad in writing to any office of the Communications Department. The insert will be found in the last issue of *CheckUp* each month. It will also be posted on bulletin boards at each site.

New Library Hours

LVHC site - 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

TAH site - 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday.



Picnic Memories

The first annual TAH-LVHC employee picnic was a fun-filled day as shown in these photographs. John D'Aurora (above), vice president (LVHC), is seeing triple as he helps serve hot dogs to the Jurkiewicz triplets, children of Mercedes Jurkiewicz, Operating Room (TAH). One of the adult activities (right) was an old-fashioned three-legged race. Several picnickers (below) took time out from the festivities to help a friend look for a missing diamond ring. They found it!



Educational Happenings

Monday, July 11

TAH - General Hospital Orientation Part 1 - 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Auditorium

LVHC - CPR Recertification (non-nursing) - 9 a.m. to noon, Classroom 2

Tuesday, July 12

LVHC - Medical Terminology - 9 to 10:30 a.m., Classroom 3

TAH - Hospital Tour - 10:30 a.m. to noon, meet in lobby

TAH - General Hospital Orientation Part 2 - 12:30 to 3 p.m., Auditorium

LVHC - Community CPR - 2 to 5 p.m., Auditorium Alcove

Wednesday, July 13

TAH - Stroke Team Meeting - 9 to 10 a.m., Auditorium

LVHC - Auditorium-Audiovisual Training Session - 10 to 11 a.m., Auditorium

Thursday, July 14

LVHC - Auditorium-Audiovisual Training Session - 10 to 11 a.m., Auditorium

LVHC - Teleconference: JCAH Perspectives Part II - 9 to 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 to 10 a.m., Auditorium

Friday, July 15

LVHC - Auditorium-Audiovisual Training Session - 2 to 3 p.m., Auditorium

LVHC - Teleconference: JCAH Perspectives Part II - 10 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 11 a.m., Auditorium

Monday, July 18

LVHC - New Employee Orientation - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Classroom 3

Tuesday, July 19

LVHC - Medical Terminology - 9 to 10:30 a.m., Auditorium Alcove

LVHC - Teleconference: JCAH Perspectives Part II - 1:30 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 2:30 p.m., Auditorium

Correction

Part I of a two-part CPR certification course will be held on Monday, July 25 from 1 to 3 p.m. in TAH Auditorium. Part II is scheduled for Thursday, July 28 from 1 to 3 p.m., and Friday, July 29 from 9 to 11 a.m. in TAH Auditorium.

For more information or to register for the course, call ext. 2430.

Wednesday, July 20

TAH - Stroke Team Meeting - 9 to 10 a.m., Auditorium

Thursday, July 21

LVHC - CPR Certification Part I (non-nursing) - 1 to 4 p.m., Auditorium Alcove

Friday, July 22

LVHC - CPR Certification Part II (non-nursing) - 1 to 3 p.m., Auditorium Alcove

LVHC - Teleconference: JCAH Perspectives Part II - 10 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 11 a.m., Auditorium

Cancer Care Symposium Set

The Comprehensive Community Cancer Center and the Pharmacy department of TAH-LVHC will sponsor a symposium for pharmacists, nurses, physicians and other health professionals involved in the treatment and care of the cancer patient.

The two-day symposium, "Cancer Care 1988: Increasing the Odds," will be held on Friday, Aug. 26 and Saturday, Aug. 27, at Harrah's Marina in Atlantic City, N.J.

Upon completion of the first day of the symposium, participants will have acquired a better awareness and understanding of specific areas of

immunotherapy, chemotherapy and the management of select treatment complications.

The second day of the symposium deals exclusively with pain management.

Conference registration fee for employees of the HealthEast system is \$25 per day. This cost includes all course materials, break refreshments, lunch and parking. However, it does not include accommodations.

For more information, call Richard M. Attilio, R.Ph., assistant Pharmacy director, clinical services, at ext. 8880.

Non-Nursing CPR Classes Scheduled

Due to the tremendous number of requests for CPR training, the Hospital Center's Educational Development has scheduled the following classes in the Auditorium Alcove for non-nursing personnel:

July 11 - 9 a.m. to noon, Recertification

July 12 - 2 to 5 p.m., Community CPR

July 21 - 1 to 4 p.m., Certification

July 27 - 1 to 4 p.m., Recertification

July 28 - 7 to 10 p.m., Community CPR

August 2 - 9 a.m. to noon, Certification

August 9 - 2 to 5 p.m., Community CPR

August 11 - 9 a.m. to noon, Recertification

August 16 - 1 to 4 p.m., Certification

August 22 - 1 to 4 p.m., Recertification

August 25 - 7 to 10 p.m., Community CPR

Reminder: Exercise, Eating Topic of Lecture

WomanCare of The Allentown Hospital will sponsor a program entitled, "Exercise and Eating for the '80s" on Tuesday, July 12 at noon in Classroom 1 at the LVHC site and Wednesday, July 13 at 7 p.m. in the School of Nursing Auditorium at TAH site. The guest speaker will be Natalie Updegrove, registered dietitian.

For more information, or to register, call *WomanCare* at ext. 3800.